

County Will Be Asked to Ban Sexually Explicit Video Games

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The county Board of Supervisors will be asked Tuesday to ban the sale of sexually explicit video games from the unincorporated county territory.

The request comes from the county Commission on the Status of Women which is outraged over the contents of video games bearing the names of "Custer's Revenge," "Bachelor Party" and "Beat 'Em and Eat 'Em."

In "Custer's Revenge" players attempt to couple a naked Calvary officer with a nude Indian maiden as many times as possible before the officer gets hit by

an arrow.

In a scathing letter to the board signed by commission Chairperson Betty Rosenstein, the 13-member commission charges that the games could be dangerous to the health of women.

"It contributes to a psychological atmosphere which trivializes, condones and encourages acts of violence such as rape and battering against women," Ms. Rosenstein said.

She described the commission's reaction to the adult video games as one of shock and horror and hopes to get community groups to pressure others to make sure the games never hit the market.

The games are being marketed by the Northridge firm of American Multiple Industries under the brand name of "Mystique."

Claiming to represent the composite thinking of the women of the county, the commission plans to urge the board to consider passing an ordinance that would prohibit the sale of such games in unincorporated county land, the only portions of the county where the board has power to enact such a law.

The games, which are due to hit the market this month, have already received protests from American Indian groups and Atari, Inc., a leader in the home video game field whose machines can handle the allegedly offensive cassettes.

Atari has threatened to sue the Northridge firm over the X-rated games which will cost \$49.95, but American Multiple Industries apparently plans to go ahead with marketing the video cassettes.